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Application No.: 10/599,735

Docket No.: 4749-012

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:**

The attached sheets of drawing include changes to Figs. 8 and 9, as required by the Office Action.

Application No.: 10/599,735Docket No.: 4749-012**REMARKS**

Figs. 8 and 9 have been amended as required.

The specification has been rewritten, without insertion of new matter, to correct syntax errors and for clarity.

Claim 1 has been canceled and replaced by claim 8 for clarity, to overcome the rejection based on 35 USC 112, paragraph 2, and to include subject matter similar to that previously included in now cancelled claim 4. Claims 5-7 are cancelled because the subject matter thereof is now redundant since it is included in claim 8. Claims 2 and 3 now depend on claim 8

Claim 8 is not anticipated by Seto, JP 11-074043 (which apparently is equivalent to US 6,162,083, now cited in an IDS filed concurrently with this amendment) previously relied on to reject claims 1-7 based on anticipation under 35 USC 102(b). Claim 8 requires the lock portion to extend above the opposed surface of the lower portion of each of plural terminals, i.e., the upper surface of the lower portion of each of plural terminals.

In contrast, Seto has no disclosure of lock portion 12 being above the upper surface of lower terminal portion 6. It appears that lock portion 12 and the upper surface of terminal portion 6 are horizontally aligned with each of the terminals 6. Thus, when flat circuit or cable 10 is inserted into the connector body 2, each of the conductive portions 16 of the flat circuit or cable 10 apparently contacts each of terminal portions 6. Therefore, damage, such as streaks on each of the conductive portions 16 of the flat circuit or cable 10 due to contact with each of the terminals 6 can occur. Such deleterious effects do not occur with the structure now defined by claim 8; see the penultimate paragraph of the specification.

Claims 9-11 are added to provide applicant with the protection to which he is deemed entitled. The subject matter of the newly added claims is evident from Figs. 1-7 and the description thereof.

Allowance is in order.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of

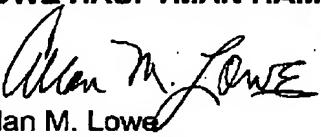
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this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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